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Livelihoods, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change in Morogoro, Tanzania

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Journal: Environmental Science & Policy. 11 (7): 642-654

Abstract:

This article examines farmers' livelihood responses and vulnerability to climate variability and other stressors in Morogoro, Tanzania, to understand their implications for adaptation to climate change by agricultural households in developing world more generally. In Morogoro, agricultural households have extended cultivation, intensified agriculture, diversified livelihoods and migrated to gain access to land, markets and employment as a response to climatic and other stressors. Some of these responses have depleted and degraded natural resources such as forest, soil and water resources, which will complicate their living with climate change in the future. This will be particularly problematic to vulnerable groups such as women, children and pastoralists who have limited access to employment, markets and public services. In this light, fair adaptation to climate change by agricultural households in Morogoro and elsewhere in developing countries requires several complementary responses. Adaptation efforts should involve effective governance of natural resources because they function as safety nets to vulnerable groups. In addition, strengthening of national markets by infrastructure investments and institutional reforms is needed to give incentives to intensification and diversification in agriculture. Market participation also demands enhancement of human capital by public programs on health, education and wellbeing. © 2008 Elsevier Ltd. All rights reserved.

Source: http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.envsci.2008.06.002

Resource Description

Exposure: M

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Ecosystem Changes, Extreme Weather Event, Human Conflict/Displacement, Precipitation, Temperature

Extreme Weather Event: Drought

Temperature: Fluctuations

Geographic Feature: M

resource focuses on specific type of geography

Rural, Urban

Geographic Location: M

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resource focuses on specific location

Non-United States

Non-United States: Africa

African Region/Country: African Country

Other African Country: Tanzania

Health Impact: M

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Health Outcome Unspecified

Mitigation/Adaptation: **☑**

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Adaptation

Population of Concern: A focus of content

Population of Concern:

populations at particular risk or vulnerability to climate change impacts

Children, Low Socioeconomic Status

Resource Type:

format or standard characteristic of resource

Research Article

Timescale: M

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified

Vulnerability/Impact Assessment:

☐

resource focus on process of identifying, quantifying, and prioritizing vulnerabilities in a system

A focus of content